

# DUMPS ARENA

## California Basic Educational Skills Test - Reading

Test Prep CBEST-Section-2-Reading

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**QUESTION NO: 1**

A healthy diet with proper nutrition is essential for maintaining good overall health. Since vitamins were discovered earlier in this century, people have routinely been taking vitamin supplements for this purpose. The Recommended Dietary Allowance

(RDA) is a frequently used nutritional standard for maintaining optimal health. The RDA specifies the recommended amount of a number of nutrients for people of both sexes and in many different age groups. The National Research Council's Committee on Diet and Health has proposed a definition of the RDA to be that amount of a nutrient which meets the needs of 98 percent of the population. The RDA approach \_\_\_\_\_. First, it is based on the assumption that it is possible to accurately define nutritional requirements for a given group. However, individual nutritional requirements can vary widely within each group. The efficiency with which a person converts food intake into nutrients can also vary widely. Certain foods when eaten in combination actually prevent the absorption of nutrients. For example, spinach combined with milk reduces the amount of calcium available to the body from the milk. Also, the RDA approach specifies a different dietary requirement for each age and sex; however, it is clearly unrealistic to expect a homemaker to prepare a different menu for each family member. Still, although we cannot rely solely upon RDA to ensure our overall long-term health, it can be a useful guide so long as its limitations are recognized.

On the basis of above passage please answer the following question

Which of the following would best fit in the blank in the first sentence of paragraph two?

- A. is based on studies by respected nutritionists
- B. has a number of shortcomings
- C. has been debunked in the last few years
- D. is full of holes
- E. is constantly being refined

**ANSWER: B****Explanation:**

The blank is followed by a discussion of the shortcomings of the RDA approach. Choice a is incorrect because it does not lead into the discussion that follows regarding the RDA approach's shortcomings. Choice c is incorrect because it is contradicted by the final sentence of the passage, which states that the RDA approach remains a useful guide. Choice d is incorrect because its slangy style is inconsistent with the style used in the rest of the passage. Choice e is incorrect because it does not lead into the discussion which follows, and there is nothing in the passage to indicate the RDA is changing.

**QUESTION NO: 2**

1) The Woodstock Music and Art Fair—better known to its participants and to history simply as “Woodstock”—should have been a colossal failure.

2) Just a month prior to its August 15, 1969 opening, the fair's organizers were informed by the council of Wallkill, New York, that permission to hold the festival was withdrawn. 3) Amazingly, not only was a new site found, but word got out to the public of the fair's new location. 4) At the new site, fences that were supposed to facilitate ticket collection never materialized, and all attempts at gathering tickets were abandoned. 5) Crowd estimates of 30,000 kept rising; by the end of the three days,

some estimated the crowd at 500,000. 6) And then, on opening night, it began to rain. 7) Off and on, throughout all three days, huge summer storms rolled over the gathering. 8) In spite of these problems, most people think of Woodstock not only as a fond memory but as the defining moment for an entire generation.

On the basis of above passage please answer the following question

Which of the following would be the most appropriate title for this passage?

- A. Woodstock as Metaphor
- B. Backstage at Woodstock
- C. Woodstock: From The Band to The Who
- D. Remembering Woodstock
- E. Woodstock: The Untold Story

**ANSWER: D**

**Explanation:**

The titles in choices b, c, and e all imply that the passage will provide information which it does not. Choice a is not logical given the content of the passage; choice d is the most accurate choice because the passage deals mainly with remembering the fair.

**QUESTION NO: 3**

By using tiny probes as neural prostheses, scientists may be able to restore nerve function in quadriplegics and make the blind see or the deaf hear. Thanks to advanced techniques, a single, small, implanted probe can stimulate individual neurons electrically or chemically and then record responses. Preliminary results suggest that the microprobe telemetry systems can be permanently implanted and replace damaged or missing nerves. The tissue-compatible microprobes represent an advance over the typical aluminum wire electrodes used in studies of the cortex and other brain structures. Researchers accumulate much data using traditional electrodes, but there is a question of how much damage they cause to the nervous system. Microprobes, which are about as thin as a human hair, cause minimal damage and disruption of neurons when inserted into the brain. In addition to recording nervous system impulses, the microprobes have minuscule channels that open the way for delivery of drugs, cellular growth factors, neurotransmitters, and other neuroactive compounds to a single neuron or to groups of neurons. Also, patients who lack certain biochemicals could receive doses via prostheses. The probes can have up to four channels, each with its own recording/stimulating electrode.

On the basis of above passage please answer the following question

The initial function of microprobe channels is to

- A. create pathways.
- B. disrupt neurons.
- C. replace ribbon cables.
- D. study the brain.
- E. induce sight and hearing in the blind and deaf.

**ANSWER: A****Explanation:**

The first sentence of the third paragraph says that microprobes have channels that open the way for delivery of drugs. Studying the brain (choice d) is not the initial function of channels, though it is one of the uses of the probes themselves.

**QUESTION NO: 4**

(1) Milton Hershey was born near the small village of Derry Church, Pennsylvania, in 1857. It was a modest beginning that did not foretell his later popularity. Milton only attended school through the fourth grade; at that point, he was apprenticed to a printer in a nearby town. Fortunately for all chocolate lovers, Milton did not excel as a printer. After a while, he left the printing business and was apprenticed to a Lancaster, Pennsylvania, candy maker. It was apparent he had found his calling in life and, at the age of eighteen, he opened his own candy store in Philadelphia. In spite of his talents as a candy maker, the shop failed after six years. (2) Milton Hershey's fans today may be surprised to learn that his first candy success came with the manufacture of caramel. After the failure of his Philadelphia store, Milton headed for Denver, where he learned the art of caramel making. There he took a job with a local manufacturer who insisted on using fresh milk in making his caramels; Milton saw that this made the caramels especially tasty. After a time in Denver, he once again attempted to open his own candy-making businesses, in Chicago, New Orleans, and New York City. Finally, in 1886, he went to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where he raised the money necessary to try again. This company—the Lancaster Caramel Company—made Milton's reputation as a master candy maker. (3) In 1893, Milton attended the Chicago International Exposition, where he saw a display of German chocolate-making implements. Captivated by the equipment, he purchased it for his Lancaster candy factory and began producing chocolate, which he used for coating his caramels. By the next year, production had grown to include cocoa, sweet chocolate, and baking chocolate. The Hershey Chocolate company was born in 1894 as a subsidiary of the Lancaster Caramel Company. Six years later, Milton sold the caramel company, but retained the rights, and the equipment, to make chocolate. He believed that a large market of chocolate consumers was waiting for someone to produce reasonably priced candy. He was right. (4) Milton Hershey returned to the village where he had been born, in the heart of dairy country, and opened his chocolate-manufacturing plant. With access to all the fresh milk he needed, he began producing the finest milk chocolate. The plant that opened in a small Pennsylvania village in 1905 is today the largest chocolate factory in the world. The confections created at this facility are favorites in the U.S. and internationally. (5) The area where the factory is located is now known as Hershey, Pennsylvania. Within the first decades of its existence, the town thrived, as did the chocolate business. A bank, a school, churches, a department store, even a park and a trolley system all appeared in short order. Soon, the town even had a zoo. Today, a visit to the area reveals the Hershey Medical Center, Milton Hershey School, and Hershey's Chocolate World, a theme park where visitors are greeted by a giant Reese's Peanut Butter Cup. All of these things—and a huge number of happy chocolate lovers—were made possible because a caramel maker visited the Chicago Exposition of 1893!

On the basis of above passage please answer the following question

Which of the following words best describes Milton Hershey's character, as he is presented in the passage?

- A. defective
- B. determined
- C. carefree
- D. cautious
- E. greedy

**ANSWER: B**

**Explanation:**

This is the best choice because the passage clearly shows Hershey's determination to be successful in the candy business. Although he had some failures, he could not be described as defective (choice a). There is nothing to indicate that he was carefree(choice c),cautious(choice d), or greedy(choice e).

**QUESTION NO: 5**

(1) Milton Hershey was born near the small village of Derry Church, Pennsylvania, in 1857. It was a modest beginning that did not foretell his later popularity. Milton only attended school through the fourth grade; at that point, he was apprenticed to a printer in a nearby town. Fortunately for all chocolate lovers,Milton did not excel as a printer. After a while, he left the printing business and was apprenticed to a Lancaster, Pennsylvania, candy maker. It was apparent he had found his calling in life and, at the age of eighteen, he opened his own candy store in Philadelphia. In spite of his talents as a candy maker, the shop failed after six years. (2)Milton Hershey's fans today may be surprised to learn that his first candy success came with the manufacture of caramel. After the failure of his Philadelphia store, Milton headed for Denver, where he learned the art of caramel making. There he took a job with a local manufacturer who insisted on using fresh milk in making his caramels; Milton saw that this made the caramels especially tasty. After a time in Denver, he once again attempted to open his own candy-making businesses, in Chicago, New Orleans, and New York City. Finally, in 1886, he went to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where he raised the money necessary to try again. This company—the Lancaster Caramel Company—made Milton's reputation as a master candy maker. (3) In 1893, Milton attended the Chicago International Exposition, where he saw a display of German chocolate-making implements. Captivated by the equipment, he purchased it for his Lancaster candy factory and began producing chocolate, which he used for coating his caramels. By the next year, production had grown to include cocoa, sweet chocolate, and baking chocolate. The Hershey Chocolate company was born in 1894 as a subsidiary of the Lancaster Caramel Company. Six years later, Milton sold the caramel company, but retained the rights, and the equipment, to make chocolate. He believed that a large market of chocolate consumers was waiting for someone to produce reasonably priced candy. He was right. (4)Milton Hershey returned to the village where he had been born, in the heart of dairy country, and opened his chocolate-manufacturing plant. With access to all the fresh milk he needed, he began producing the finest milk chocolate. The plant that opened in a small Pennsylvania village in 1905 is today the largest chocolate factory in the world. The confections created at this facility are favorites in the U.S. and internationally. (5) The area where the factory is located is now known as Hershey, Pennsylvania. Within the first decades of its existence, the town thrived, as did the chocolate business. A bank, a school, churches, a department store, even a park and a trolley system all appeared in short order. Soon, the town even had a zoo. Today, a visit to the area reveals the Hershey Medical Center, Milton Hershey School, and Hershey's Chocolate World, a theme park where visitors are greeted by a giant Reese's Peanut Butter Cup. All of these things—and a huge number of happy chocolate lovers—were made possible because a caramel maker visited the Chicago Exposition of 1893!

On the basis of above passage please answer the following question

As it is used in paragraph 1, the underlined phrase found his calling in life most nearly means

- A. became educated.
- B. discovered a vocation.
- C. was a talented person.
- D. called on other people to help him.
- E. had good luck.

**ANSWER: B****Explanation:**

In the context of the paragraph, this is the only possible choice. Choice a can be ruled out because there is no evidence that Hershey became educated. It is true that Hershey was a talented person (choice b), but was talented is not the same as having found something. Choice d is wrong because there is no evidence in paragraph 1 that Hershey called on anyone to help him. The passage talks about Hershey's hard work, but does not say he was lucky (choice e).

**QUESTION NO: 6**

By using tiny probes as neural prostheses, scientists may be able to restore nerve function in quadriplegics and make the blind see or the deaf hear. Thanks to advanced techniques, a single, small, implanted probe can stimulate individual neurons electrically or chemically and then record responses. Preliminary results suggest that the microprobe telemetry systems can be permanently implanted and replace damaged or missing nerves. The tissue-compatible microprobes represent an advance over the typical aluminum wire electrodes used in studies of the cortex and other brain structures. Researchers accumulate much data using traditional electrodes, but there is a question of how much damage they cause to the nervous system. Microprobes, which are about as thin as a human hair, cause minimal damage and disruption of neurons when inserted into the brain. In addition to recording nervous system impulses, the microprobes have minuscule channels that open the way for delivery of drugs, cellular growth factors, neurotransmitters, and other neuroactive compounds to a single neuron or to groups of neurons. Also, patients who lack certain biochemicals could receive doses via prostheses. The probes can have up to four channels, each with its own recording/stimulating electrode.

On the basis of above passage please answer the following question

All of the following are mentioned in the passage as potential uses for prostheses EXCEPT

- A. transportation of medication.
- B. induction of physical movement.
- C. compensation for damaged nerves.
- D. transportation of growth factor.
- E. removal of biochemicals from the cortex.

**ANSWER: E****Explanation:**

According to the third paragraph, people who lack biochemicals could receive doses via prostheses. However, there is no suggestion that removing biochemicals would be viable.

**QUESTION NO: 7**

Businesses today routinely keep track of large amounts of both financial and non-financial information. Sales departments keep track of current and potential customers; marketing departments keep track of product details and regional demographics; accounting departments keep track of financial data and issue reports. To be useful, all this data must be organized into a meaningful and useful system. Such a system is called a management information system, abbreviated MIS. The financial hub of the MIS is accounting. Accounting is the information system that records, analyzes, and reports economic transactions, enabling decision-makers to make informed choices when allocating scarce economic resources. It is a tool that enables the user, whether a business entity or an individual, to make wiser, more informed economic choices. It is an aid to planning, controlling, and evaluating a broad range of activities. A financial accounting system is intended for use by both the management of an organization and those outside the organization. Because it is important that financial

accounting reports be interpreted correctly, financial accounting is subject to a set of \_\_\_\_\_ guidelines called "generally accepted accounting principles" (GAAP).

On the basis of above passage please answer the following question.

This passage is most likely taken from

- A. a newspaper column.
- B. an essay about modern business.
- C. a legal brief.
- D. a business textbook.
- E. a business machine catalog.

**ANSWER: D**

**Explanation:**

The passage contains objective information about accounting such as one might find in a textbook. There is nothing new or newsworthy in it (choice a). The passage does not contain the significant amount of personal opinion one would expect to find in an essay (choice b). It does not deal with matters that might involve litigation (choice c). It is not brief enough for a business machine catalog and does not contain language suitable to advertising (choice e).

**QUESTION NO: 8**

Rhesus monkeys use facial expressions to communicate with each other and to enforce social order. For example, the "fear grimace," although it looks ferocious, is actually given by a \_\_\_\_\_ monkey who is intimidated by a \_\_\_\_\_ member of the group.

On the basis of above passage please answer the following question

Which pair of words or phrases, if inserted into the blanks in sequence, makes the most sense in the writer's context?

- A. calm . . . aggressive
- B. dominant . . . subordinate
- C. confident . . . fearless
- D. subordinate . . . dominant
- E. high-ranking . . . low-ranking

**ANSWER: D**

**Explanation:**

Answers a and c do not include the sense of hierarchy conveyed in the phrase to enforce social order. Answers b and e do convey a sense of hierarchy but reverse the proper order of meanings in the context.

**QUESTION NO: 9**

By using tiny probes as neural prostheses, scientists may be able to restore nerve function in quadriplegics and make the blind see or the deaf hear. Thanks to advanced techniques, a single, small, implanted probe can stimulate individual neurons electrically or chemically and then record responses. Preliminary results suggest that the microprobe telemetry systems can be permanently implanted and replace damaged or missing nerves. The tissue-compatible microprobes represent an advance over the typical aluminum wire electrodes used in studies of the cortex and other brain structures. Researchers accumulate much data using traditional electrodes, but there is a question of how much damage they cause to the nervous system. Microprobes, which are about as thin as a human hair, cause minimal damage and disruption of neurons when inserted into the brain. In addition to recording nervous system impulses, the microprobes have minuscule channels that open the way for delivery of drugs, cellular growth factors, neurotransmitters, and other neuroactive compounds to a single neuron or to groups of neurons. Also, patients who lack certain biochemicals could receive doses via prostheses. The probes can have up to four channels, each with its own recording/stimulating electrode.

On the basis of above passage please answer the following question Which of the following best expresses the main idea of the passage?

- A. Microprobes require further technological advances before they can be used in humans.
- B. Wire electrodes are antiquated as a means for delivering neuroactive compounds to the brain.
- C. Microprobes have great potential to help counteract neural damage.
- D. Technology now exists that may enable repair of the nervous system.
- E. Use of wire electrodes is being replaced by use of wire electrodes.

**ANSWER: C****Explanation:**

The tone throughout the passage suggests the potential for microprobes. They can be permanently implanted, they have advantages over electrodes, they are promising candidates for neural prostheses, they will have great accuracy, and they are flexible.

**QUESTION NO: 10**

1) The Woodstock Music and Art Fair—better known to its participants and to history simply as “Woodstock”—should have been a colossal failure.

2) Just a month prior to its August 15, 1969 opening, the fair’s organizers were informed by the council of Wallkill, New York, that permission to hold the festival was withdrawn. 3) Amazingly, not only was a new site found, but word got out to the public of the fair’s new location. 4) At the new site, fences that were supposed to facilitate ticket collection never materialized, and all attempts at gathering tickets were abandoned. 5) Crowd estimates of 30,000 kept rising; by the end of the three days, some estimated the crowd at 500,000. 6) And then, on opening night, it began to rain. 7) Off and on, throughout all three days, huge summer storms rolled over the gathering. 8) In spite of these problems, most people think of Woodstock not only as a fond memory but as the defining moment for an entire generation.

On the basis of above passage please answer the following question

Why is the word “amazingly” used in sentence 3?

- A. because the time in which the move was made and information sent out was so short

- B. because the fair drew such an unexpectedly enormous crowd
- C. because there was such pressure by New York officials against holding the fair
- D. because the stormy weather was so unfavorable
- E. because ticket-taking was abandoned at the fair so anyone could come in

**ANSWER: A**

**Explanation:**

The sentence preceding and leading into sentence 3 speaks of the very brief time—a month— that the organizers of the fair had to find a new site and get information out. Choices b, d, and e are incorrect because they could not have been known about at the time the fair was moved. Choice c is incorrect because there is no indication in the passage that New York officials tried to stop the fair's moving or information getting out.